

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Monday, April 26, 1999

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NETHERCUTT).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 26, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, Jr. to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

When we bow our heads for this moment of prayer it is our petition, almighty God, that our hearts and souls will focus on Your abundant and forgiving love to us and to all people. In a troubled world where violence seems to be so rampant, we pray that we will lift our eyes to see Your vision of hope, a vision where the good words of faith and reconciliation and understanding will not only be the words of our lips, but will be translated into deeds that comfort and sustain and strengthen our human community. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a

bill and a concurrent resolution of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 574. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

S. Con. Res. 29. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for concerts to be conducted by the National Symphony Orchestra.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to section 801(b) of Public Law 100-696, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

Mr. TAYLOR, North Carolina;

Mr. FRANKS, New Jersey.

There was no objection.

OPPOSE H.R. 45, NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Constitution, as I read and understand it, gives the House of Representatives the sole authority to raise taxes. However, now the nuclear industry wants to change this. H.R. 45, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1999, proposes to grant taxing authority to the Secretary of Energy. That is right, the Secretary of Energy will have the authority to raise taxes on your electric rates, and that is a terrible precedent to set.

The bill also proposes to take the Nuclear Waste Trust Fund off budget. We all know what that means. No more congressional oversight on how much money goes into the account or how the money is spent. And it puts the Nuclear Waste Trust Fund in the same technical off-budget status as the Social Security Trust Fund. How bizarre.

H.R. 45 will break the balanced budget resolution and circumvent the bipartisan Budget Enforcement Act. Not to mention this bill still completely ignores our environmental laws, it ignores commonsense science, it ignores transportation hazards, and it ignores human health concerns.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 45 circumvents the Constitution, it sets bad congressional precedent, and it is bad for America. We need to do what is right for our constituents and oppose H.R. 45.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

FORT KING BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce a bill of historical importance. My home, Ocala, Florida, is home to Fort King. This Fort played a direct role in the founding of Florida as a state.

On December 28, 1835, Fort King was the site of an outbreak of hostilities between the United States Government and the Seminole Indians. The Seminoles, were led in this attack by Chief Osceola. This attack began the Second Seminole War, which lasted longer than any other United States armed conflict, except for the Vietnam War.

Fort King and the surrounding area contain artifacts used in the attack and in the life of the Seminole Indians. This bill would help preserve Seminole history in Florida.

My bill authorizes a study by the Interior Department to identify a means of preserving and developing Fort King.

Preserving our past for our children and grandchildren is imperative. Fort King is a historical gem that should be accessible to all. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important, historical bill.

THE MISSOURI TIGER ARMY & NAVY ANCHOR MEMORIAL—A TRIBUTE TO THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II EXERCISE TIGER OPERATION MAKING THE "TIGER" A REALITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 55th anniversary of what may be the least known, yet most gallant naval effort ever waged, the operation known as Exercise Tiger.

Fifty-five years ago, 749 American soldiers and sailors lost their lives in the English Channel when they were attacked by German torpedo boats. Embarked aboard landing ship tanks or LSTs for a secret rehearsal of the Normandy landing, and without accompanying escorts, these brave men came under attack from nine German Navy E-boats patrolling the English Channel.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

With uncommon courage and valor, the soldiers and crew engaged in Exercise Tiger defended their ships in the greatest naval engagement ever conducted by LST's. However, in the battle that raged, three LSTs were torpedoed. Two of them, the U.S.S. LST-507, and the LST-531 sunk to the bottom of the English Channel, while a third LST, the U.S.S. LST-289, was able to reach port.

Their sacrifice played a key role in ensuring the success of the subsequent Normandy invasion, which ultimately freed Europe.

Today, I am here to honor and remember the veterans, living and dead, of Exercise Tiger, and to celebrate the placement of an anchor from an LST in Mexico, Missouri. This memorial will serve as a permanent reminder to all who see it of the high price of freedom that those involved in Exercise Tiger paid.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize Walt Domanski, the National Director of the Tiger Foundation, and others who helped make this memorial a reality. On June 12, 1997, Mr. Domanski made a request to U.S. Navy Captain Gary Chiavarotti, Director of the U.S. Navy's Inactive Fleet, for the Navy to donate two 5,000 pound stern anchors from the Suffolk County Class tank landing ships, which operated under the code name Exercise Tiger, to serve as twin State and national memorials to commemorate the Battle of Exercise Tiger in New Jersey and Missouri. On July 13th, 1997, the request was approved.

In December of 1997, the anchor traveled a 1,500 mile journey from Norfolk, Virginia, to Columbia, Missouri, and was given to area "Tiger" veterans as a Christmas present. This action mainly resulted from the efforts of U.S. Navy Petty Officer Rocky Roberts, who served on the tank landing ship *LaMoure County* 1194, and by Uponeor ETI of Columbia, who donated their transportation resources. The *LaMoure* ship was safely transported to Columbia for the 1995 Exercise Tiger ceremony. This was the first time the U.S. Navy had ever donated an active ship to honor such an event. Now, its anchor will stand as The Missouri Exercise Tiger Army & Navy Anchor Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that under the direction of Commissioner Dick Weber and the efforts of Mexico, Missouri, businessman Paul Koelling, both Audrain County and the Mexico community was assembled together to help donate the necessary work and funding for the Exercise Tiger Anchor Memorial project. At this time, I would also like to mention the efforts of the Mexico Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, the American Legion (who donated over \$2,000 for this event), and the Exercise Tiger Association members. All have contributed to make this memorial a lasting tribute to those that served in the operation of Exercise Tiger.

It is my honor to acknowledge the indispensable role that members of Exercise Tiger played in making the D-day invasion a success. I am proud to call attention to the efforts of the U.S. Navy and the Mexico Veterans Post who served as the "anchor" of this commemorative effort—helping to make this dream a reality.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GIBBONS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, on April 28.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes each day, on April 27 and 28.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM, for 5 minutes, on April 27.

Mr. DEMINT, for 5 minutes, on April 27.

Mr. STEARNS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HULSHOF, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL AND CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A bill and concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 574. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to make corrections to a map relating to the Coastal Barrier Resources System; to the Committee on Resources.

S. Con. Res. 29. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for concerts to be conducted by the National Symphony Orchestra; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 27, 1999, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1712. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Potato Leaf Roll Virus Resistance Gene (also known as orf1/orf2 gene); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-300530A; FRL-6052-3] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1713. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-7256] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1714. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations—received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1715. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket No. FEMA-7273] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1716. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations—received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1717. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—List of Communities Eligible for the Sale of Flood Insurance [Docket No. FEMA-7700] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1718. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—List of Communities Eligible for the Sale of Flood Insurance [Docket No. FEMA-7697] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1719. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7698] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1720. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision; Kern County Air Pollution County District [CA 152-0131; FRL-6235-4] received March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

1721. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulatory Management and Information, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arizona and California State Implementation Plan Revision; Maricopa County, Arizona, Antelope Valley Air Pollution Control District, San Diego County Air Pollution Control District, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District, and Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [CA 211-0126 EC; FRL-6235-5] March 10, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

1722. A letter from the AMD—Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Belzoni and Tchula, Mississippi) [MM Docket No. 97-243] (RM-9194) received March 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

1723. A letter from the AMD—Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (New Martinsville, West Virginia) [MM Docket No. 97-129] (RM-9076) received March 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.